

DRAFT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Photographic Intelligence Center
SUBJECT: Organization of a Large Geological Survey of
Restricted Regions, USSR
REFERENCE: Your Memorandum of 19 September 1960, Same Subject

25X1A9a

1. [REDACTED] report touches upon a number of subjects that are receiving increasing attention in the intelligence community. In recent years the Soviet government has devoted considerable resources to the development of the earth sciences. [REDACTED] is 25X1A9a correct in pointing out that this program has major implications bearing on Soviet economic growth. The accompanying program of basic research is also enhancing the prestige of Soviet scientists throughout the rest of the world.

2. The data acquired by the Soviets also have other implications. For example, the intensive Soviet program of earth science research includes not only geological investigations, but certain aspects of gravimetry which are directly related to improving long-range missile targeting. In a larger context, the article discussed by [REDACTED] 25X1A9a emphasizes the serious implications that are inherent in long-standing Soviet objectives and systematic programs for the study of the earth as a whole. We have been following and reporting on these developments rather closely, with particular note of the potential of Soviet foreign aid programs for developing geological, geodetic, and gravity data, and topographic map coverage in areas outside the Sin-Soviet Bloc. The Soviet activity has a definite applicability to military capabilities although we hesitate to assign to the Baku Conference any specific implications for military planning.

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3. In our view, the term "zakrytyy" is meant strictly in its technical geological sense as it relates to buried strata and structures, and has no reference to the Soviet political-security restricted areas. The Conference certainly underscores Soviet efforts to step up techniques and programs for geophysical prospecting.

OTTO E. GUTHE
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

D/CG/ [REDACTED] (27Sep60) 25X1A9a

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		C O P Y	
		DATE 27 September 1960	
TO: Chief/E			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING		
REMARKS:			
<p>Ed,</p> <p>Lundahl has sent a piece prepared by an "old friend of yours" for review and comment. We have prepared a draft for the AD's signature. You may want to comment also. At least you may want to see it!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Jim</p> <p>Please pass on to Otto!</p>			
FROM: Chief/G			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION	
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.	
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